

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application Inventor(s): Christopher E. Bales et al. Appl. No.: 10/786,749 Confirm. No.: 2989 Filed: February 25, 2004 Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR NAVIGATING A GRAPHICAL HIERARCHY	<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u> Art Unit: 2109 Examiner: Sherrod L. Keaton <u>Customer No. 23910</u>
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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER RE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

***Enclosed with this statement are the following:***

- Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- As allowed under 37 C.F.R § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), no copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are enclosed, unless required by the office.
- As allowed under 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of cited documents noted with an asterisk are not enclosed because they were previously submitted in U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_, which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 USC §120, and which included an Information Disclosure Statement that complies with 37 CFR §1.98(a) through (c).
- A copy of a Supplemental European Search Report dated December 19, 2006 for Application No. EP 01975484.5.
- A copy of an International Preliminary Examination Report dated \_\_\_\_\_ for Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevance is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(I). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. MPEP §609A(3). If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this

statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).

**This statement should be considered because:**

X — **37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);  
— OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;  
— OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,  
— OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.  
— AND (*check at least one of the following*) --
- (a) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).  
— OR --
- (b) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee;  
— AND --
- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c);  
— AND --
- (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— **PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d).** Each item of information contained in the *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56© more than thirty days prior to the filing of the *Information Disclosure Statement*.

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).** THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT each item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement*; or

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).** THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was known to any individual designated in §1.56© more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: February 16, 2007

By: /Joseph P. O'Malley/  
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